

## FAMILY COURT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

CHANDLEE JOHNSON KUHN CHIEF JUDGE NEW CASTLE COUNTY COURTHOUSE 500 N. KING STREET, SUITE 9450 WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19801-3736

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

October 4, 2011

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program of the Family Court of the State of Delaware has been selected to receive the 2011 Governor's Award for Outstanding Volunteer Organization

The Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program of the Family Court of the State of Delaware has been selected to receive the 2011 Governor's Award for Outstanding Volunteer Organization.

This is an esteemed award given annually to both individual volunteers as well as volunteer organizations. Nominees are selected based on highly selective criteria about the type of service provided to the community, the number of people serving the organization, the level of impact that the organization has on the community, and the volunteers' commitment to service within the organization.

CASA volunteers are appointed by Family Court Judges and represent the child's best interest in court. The CASA volunteers establish the child's best interest by gathering information, making recommendations to the Court and monitoring the circumstances surrounding the child(ren) in question. The CASA program has 270 active volunteers serving over 700 children statewide. Over 50% of the volunteers have remained assigned to a case beyond the 18 month commitment.

The CASA volunteers' efforts will be recognized by the Governor, the State Office of Volunteerism, and the State of Delaware as a whole on November 3, 2011, at Dover Downs Hotel. The efforts of the CASA volunteers have a true impact on the lives of the children and families that they so passionately serve.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
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